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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 5, 1970

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FHSU Faculty Senate, "Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, January 5, 1970" (1970). *Faculty Senate*. 564.
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Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Monday, January 5, 1970, at 3:30 p. m., in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members Present: Miss Krebs, Mr. Houston, Mr. McCullick, Dr. Randall, Mr. McConnell, Dr. Sackett, Miss Christopher, Dr. Miller, Mrs. Theis, Miss Veed, Dr. Oliva, Mr. Dalton and Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

Members Absent: Mr. Rayl.

Also Present: Mr. Kellerman.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Garwood, Chairman.

PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION FOR THE FACULTY SENATE. Copies of the proposed Constitution were distributed to the Senate members at the meeting. The Senate members had not had an opportunity to read the proposed Constitution prior to the Senate meeting.

Dean Garwood told the Senate members that President Gustad would like to have the Senate consider the proposed Constitution. In the event that the deliberations are not completed prior to the end of the semester, the discussions will be carried into the second semester. The reorganization of the division structure goes into effect February 1. For the discussions which occur after this date, the President suggested that 2 representatives be elected from each Division to represent their Divisions at the Senate until the discussions are concluded.

Dr. Sackett and his committee have made arrangements for copies of the Constitution to be distributed to all faculty members. Faculty members

are urged to read the proposed Constitution and make their comments to the Senate representatives of their respective Divisions.

President Gustad urged the Senate to take all the time necessary in its deliberations about the proposed Constitution.

In the 1968 fall semester, the Senate received a communication from the Division of Language, Literature and Speech recommending that a committee of the Senate be appointed to draw up a Constitution for the Senate. The representatives of the Language, Literature and Speech Division felt that Senate representation was inequitable in that the larger Divisions had the same membership as those Divisions with fewer members.

Following this recommendation, a committee composed of Dr. Sackett, Chairman; Dr. Witten and Mrs. Popp was appointed. During the spring semester, Mr. Lojka served on the Senate in the place of Mrs. Popp and served on the committee. During the summer months, Mr. McConnell represented the Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and served on the committee. Dr. Witten was off campus and Dr. Oliva served in his place. The Committee as it is now constituted is composed of Dr. Sackett, Chairman; Dr. Oliva and Mr. McConnell.

Dr. Sackett said that the members of the committee reviewed the Senate Constitutions utilized by a number of colleges and universities. They also scanned the literature in this area. Dr. Sackett said that in many respects, the proposed Constitution was similar to that of the Senate at Kansas State College of Pittsburg. Dr. Sackett said the proposed Constitution would give us in the neighborhood of 25 permanent subcommittees.

Dr. Sackett said the most basic decision the committee made was whether to write a Constitution for an All College Senate or a Faculty Senate. Dr. Sackett said they felt their directives indicated they were to set up a Constitution for a Faculty Senate and not an All College Senate. It was felt by the members of the committee the Senate should be a viable instrument by which the faculty members could participate in the governance of the institution.

After this brief discussion of the background for the Constitution, Dr. Sackett made the following motion:

Resolved:

that the draft Constitution of the Faculty Senate be approved by the Senate, subject to amendment by the Senate at these current meetings;

that the draft Constitution, as amended, be submitted to the faculty during the first school week in the spring semester of 1970 and voted upon by them during the third school week in that semester;

that the first elections under the new Constitution take place as soon as possible after this vote and that the new Senate organize itself at that time;

and that the term of office under the new Constitution which ends on August 31, 1970, be counted as one year.

Motion seconded by Dr. Randall.

As the Constitution is now proposed, it appears that each Senate member would be on at least 3 committees. The chairmen of all subcommittees would be Senate members. It would appear that the proposed Senate would have between 32 and 35 members.

There was some comment about the wording of the proposed Constitution and a few changes were made in the Constitution as it was submitted.

Discussion ensued concerning membership in the number of committees.

In the proposed Senate structure, the Senate would elect its officers consisting of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. These 3 members would appoint the membership of all the committees. Although the 3 officers of the Senate would have the responsibility for staffing the committee members, the officers would be elected by the Senate members.

Dr. Randall said that the regulations governing representation in the Senate might work a hardship on some departments where there was a great deal of turnover. It is conceivable that some departments would not have members who had been on the staff 3 years. Dr. Sackett said the Committee on Eligibility could handle this problem.

It was pointed out that the membership of the Senate should consist of those who are somewhat familiar with the philosophy of the College and who have had experience on the staff. Election to the Senate would be some recognition for service in the institution.

It is conceivable that an individual might have been on the staff 3 years yet some individual who is in his second year might be better qualified to serve on the Senate than the individual with the longer experience.

RECOMMENDATION: Dr. Randall recommended that the second sentence in II. A. be deleted. Motion seconded by Mr. McCullick.

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It was suggested that no vote be taken until the Senate members have an opportunity to read the proposed Constitution carefully. Dr. Randall withdrew his motion and Mr. McCullick withdrew his second.

A copy of the proposed Constitution is enclosed at the end of the Minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p. m.

John D. Garwood, Chairman

Lucille Drees, Recorder